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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
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10/615,342

07/07/2003

David Scott Wishart

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7590

07/20/2006

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EXAMINER

WACHSMAN, HAL D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2857

DATE MAILED: 07/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

A

|                              |                               |                                |  |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | Application No.<br>10/615,342 | Applicant(s)<br>WISHART ET AL. |  |
|                              | Examiner<br>Hal D. Wachsman   | Art Unit<br>2857               |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 65,66,68,70,71 and 74-85 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 65,66,68,70,71 and 74-85 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/416,988.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

1. Claim 81 is improper under 37 C.F.R. 1.121 because the status identifier indicates "Previously presented" however line 6 of this claim contains an underlining marking under the second "a" which appears to indicate that the claim is being currently amended. Appropriate correction is required.
2. Claims 75 and 80 are objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(a) for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Claim 75, line 10, cites "the processor" however the antecedent basis is "processor circuit". Claim 80, line 13, cites "said pre-define record" which it appears should be "said pre-defined record". The examiner asks the applicant to better claim the limitations cited above. While the examiner understands the intentions of the applicant he feels confusion could be drawn from the limitations cited above. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

4. Claims 65, 66, 68, 70, 71 and 74-85 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

- a) Claims 75, 79 and 81 are directed toward non-statutory subject matter because each one of these claims are claiming a *signal* which is non-statutory because

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a signal does not fall into one of the four statutory categories of inventions, as a signal is not a process, machine, article of manufacture or composition of matter.

b) Claims 65, 66, 68, 70, 71 and 74-85, are also directed toward non-statutory subject matter because the claimed invention does not provide a practical application of a judicial exception in that the claimed invention does not transform an article or physical object to a different state or thing (note: transformation of data is not "physical transformation") and does not produce a useful, concrete and tangible **result**. For example, in claim 65 the result is "producing a position value...", however a "value" is not tangible and this result is not being conveyed to someone or something such that the usefulness of knowing the position value for at least one peak of the reference spectrum could be realized, and that such information represents a specific, substantial and credible utility. It is also noted that although claims 76, 77, 82 and 83 are indicated as "apparatus" claims, as the Applicant appears to be relying on the algorithm for patentability, these claims still lack a practical application.

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 65, 66, 68, 70, 71 and 74-85 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. As a result of the *current* Office policy with respect to 35 U.S.C. 101 and further review of the claims, a new grounds of rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 has been made as shown in paragraphs 3 and 4 above.

6. No claims are allowed.


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hal D. Wachsman whose telephone number is 571-272-

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2225. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 7:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc Hoff can be reached on 571-272-2216. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
Hal D Wachsman  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2857

HW  
July 16, 2006